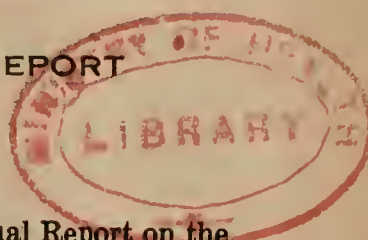


# Pewsey Rural District Council.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1939



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my 20th Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Administration of your district.

I regret that owing to the war I cannot complete 20 annual reports in the manner I would wish. This report is brief and is according to instructions received from the Ministry of Health in their circular 2067 dated July 19th 1940.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. WILSON,

18 Victoria Road, Salisbury.

Medical Officer of Health.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

Population—Census 1931 : 14,292

Population—Estimated Mid. 1939—14,150 (for birth-rate), 14,340 (for death rate).

Area, 75,828 Acres

Rateable Value : £76,239

Sum represented by Penny Rate : £326 0 0

Number of Inhabited Houses as shown by Rate Books end of 1939 : 3,745.

Births, 1939.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live	175	118	293 (6 Illegitimate)
Still	1	8	9 (2 Illegitimate)
Birth Rate, 1939.			England and Wales
Live	20.7		Live 15.0
Still	.63		Still 0.59

Birth Rate	Average last 10 years	19.2
England and Wales	„ „ 10 „	15.1

Deaths : Males, 88. Females 76. Total, 164.

Death Rate (1939)	11.4	Average last 10 years	11.23
England and Wales „	12.1	„ „ 10 „	12.0

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age : Males 5 Females 5. Total, 10.

Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) 34.0 (1939)

England and Wales 50.0 „

Infantile Mortality Average last 10 years 46.8 „

England and Wales „ „ 10 „ 59.1 „

The AREAL COMPARABILITY FACTOR .97.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease.	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	11 (2 Mil.).	9	0
Diphtheria ...	5	5	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	1	0
Pneumonia ...	9 (2 Mil.)	3 (3 Mil.)	0
Erysipelas ...	3 (2 Mil.)	3 (2 Mil.)	0
Measles ...	59 (1 Mil.)	1 (Mil.)	0
Poliomyelitis ...	1	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	2 (2 Mil.)	2 (2 Mil.)	0

**Scarlet Fever.** All the cases were evenly distributed during the year and were sporadic.

**Diphtheria.** Four clinical cases only arose; the fifth was a "carrier" in an institution which had to be removed to avoid infection.

**Puerperal Pyrexia.** Of the four cases three were treated in their homes and the fourth in the Military Hospital.

**Pneumonia.** Nine cases were notified, three were admitted to the Military Hospital at Tidworth, two being soldiers and one the son of a soldier, all the others were treated in their homes and of these one died. Four deaths were registered as Pneumonia which had not previously been notified to me.

**Erysipelas.** Three cases were notified, two being in soldiers who were treated in Hospital.

**Poliomyelitis.** One case was notified and this child was treated privately.

**Measles and Whooping Cough** became notifiable at the end of October and from then to the end of the year 59 cases of the former and two of the latter were notified. No deaths among them.

**Tuberculosis.** Six deaths from this disease were recorded during the year and thirteen fresh cases notified. Only one of the notified cases died.

### The Notifications were :—

Male Pulm.	1 between 20-25	1 between 35-45
	3 „ 25-35	1 „ 45-55
Female Pulm.	1 „ 15-20	2 „ 35-45
	1 „ 25-35	1 „ 55-65
F. Non. „	1 „ 5-10	1 „ 15-20

### Deaths were :—

Male Pulm.	1 between 20-25	1 between 55-65
	1 „ 45-55	
Female „	1 „ 35-45	1 over 65
M. Non. „	1 „ 10-15	

## **WATER SUPPLY.**

There has been little alteration in the source of supply for the District. Some improvement has been effected at the Pewsey Waterworks by the sinking of a new bore hole and the overhaul of the pumping machinery.

Consumption in the parish of Pewsey has increased as a result of the conversion of a large number of pail closets to the water carriage system.

The Ludgershall water is now Chlorinated and monthly bacteriological examination of both Pewsey and Ludgershall waters shows them to be satisfactory.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

The sewerage system at Pewsey commenced in 1938 was in working order by September of this year and a considerable number of premises have been connected to the sewers.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

With the exception of the parish of Pewsey there have been few conversions.

The night soil collection has been discontinued in Pewsey, but the voluntary scheme is still in operation in Ludgershall.

### **Public Cleansing.**

The collection of household refuse has been carried out over the whole area, providing weekly collections in the parishes of Pewsey, Ludgershall, and North Tidworth, the remainder of the District being served by a fortnightly collection. Up to the outbreak of war the refuse was disposed of by burning.

A number of sewer ditches are regularly cleansed by the Council's workmen.

### **Legal Action.**

Proceedings were taken against a retailer for offences under the Milk and Dairies order 1926 and the Milk and Dairies act 1915.

The retailer was fined £10 and his name removed from the register.

Proceedings were taken against a butcher for having unsound meat on his premises. The court convicted and imposed a fine of £5 and one month imprisonment. A slaughterman was also fined for killing otherwise than by use of the Humane killer.

## **HOUSING.**

320 houses were inspected during the year and 553 visits were made, 10 were found to be unfit for human habitation and 18 were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit.

10 Demolition orders were made and 14 houses rendered fit after informal action.

3 Statutory notices were served requiring defects to be remedied and these defects were remedied after receipt of the notice.

### **Overcrowding.**

Figures for overcrowding are useless because, although there was some overcrowding when war was declared, the evacuation of children completely altered the situation. Naturally the greatest overcrowding is in the neighbourhood of the Military Camps.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

	No. of Inspections. 1	No. of Defects. 2	Informal Notices. 3	Statutory Notices. 4	Remedied by 3. 5	Remedied by 4. 6	Remedied after verbal instructions only. 7
Nuisances ...	196	81	5	—	5	—	60
Slaughter- houses ...	148	7	1	—	1	—	6
Knackers' Yards ...	20	5	—	—	—	—	5
Places where food is pre- pared ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cowsheds ...	103	30	8	1	8	1	21
Dairies and Milkstores							
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	10	6	5	—	3	—	2
Bakehouses	66	4	—	—	—	—	4
Butcher's Shops ...	141	2	—	—	—	—	2
Totals	684	135	19	1	17	1	100

#### Not classified above :—

Housing Inspections (see Housing) ...	...	...	553
Infectious Disease visits ...	...	...	21
Visits to Factories ...	...	...	54
Unclassified visits and inspections—water samples, drain testing, refuse collection, byelaws, etc. ...	...	...	600
Total Number of Visits ...	...	...	1,912

#### Milk and Dairies, etc.

Number of Wholesale Producers registered (1939) ...	...	162
„ Retail Purveyors registered (1939) ...	...	67
„ Certificates issued (Producers) during 1939 ...	...	13
„ Certificates issued (Retailers) during 1939 ...	...	4

#### Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Registered Slaughter-houses ...	...	6
Number of Licensed Slaughter-houses ...	...	3
Notices received of Regular Slaughter ...	...	9
Notices received of Casual Slaughter ...	...	19
Number of Condemnations ...	...	40



## TOTAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.			M.	F.	Causes of Death.			M.	F.
...	All Causes	...	88	76	30	Other puerperal	...		
1	Typhoid fever, etc.	...			31	Congenital causes, etc.	...	3	5
2	Measles	...			32	Senility	...	5	2
3	Scarlet fever	...			33	Suicide	...	1	
4	Whooping cough	...	1		34	Other violence	...	2	1
5	Diphtheria	...			35	Other defined causes	...	5	8
6	Influenza	...	1		36	Ill-defined causes	...		
7	Encephalitis lethargica...	...			Special Causes (included in				
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...			No. 35)				
9	Respiratory tuberculosis	...	3	2	Small-pox				
10	Other tuberculous	...	1		Poliomyelitis				
11	Syphilis	...			Polioencephalitis				
12	General paralysis of the	...			Deaths of Infants under 1 year—				
	insane, etc.	...			Total				
13	Cancer	...	12	12	Legitimate				
14	Diabetes	...			Illegitimate				
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage	...	6	11	Live Births				
16	Heart disease	...	25	23	For Birth-rate				
17	Aneurysm	...			Total				
18	Other circulatory	...	7	4	Legitimate				
19	Bronchitis	...	2	1	Illegitimate				
20	Pneumonia	...	7		For Inf. Mort.-rate				
21	Other respiratory	...			Total				
22	Peptic Ulcer	...			Legitimate				
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2	...			Illegitimate				
	years)	...		1	Stillbirths				
24	Appendicitis	...	1		Total				
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	1		Legitimate				
26	Other diseases of liver,	...		1	Illegitimate				
27	Other digestive	...	1	3	Population				
28	Nephritis	...	3		For Birth-rate				
29	Puerperal sepsis...	...			For Death-rate				

